

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

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1. (Currently amended) A battery, comprising:  
a housing;  
an anode in the housing;  
a cathode in the housing; and  
a separator between the cathode and the anode;  
the housing having a surface adjacent to the cathode, the surface defining ~~an opening adapted to facilitate a plurality of openings arranged to provide a generally non-circular flux of gas on a portion of the cathode,~~  
wherein the ~~opening is~~ openings are not ~~a louver~~ louvers.
  2. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the flux of gas is generally oval.
  3. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the flux of gas is generally curvilinear.
  4. (Cancelled)
  5. (Currently amended) The battery of claim ~~1-4~~, wherein the openings are circular.
  6. (Currently amended) The battery of claim ~~1-4~~, wherein the openings are elongated.
  7. (Cancelled)
  8. (Currently amended) The battery of claim ~~1-7~~, wherein the ~~opening is~~ openings are generally straight.
  9. (Currently amended) The battery of claim ~~1-7~~, wherein the openings are ~~opening is~~ curved.

10. (Currently amended) The battery of claim 1, wherein the surface defines openings are symmetrically positioned in the housing.

11. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the battery is a metal-air battery.

12. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the battery is a button cell.

13. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the battery is a prismatic battery.

14. (Currently amended) A battery, comprising:

a housing;

an anode in the housing;

a cathode in the housing; and

a separator between the cathode and the anode;

the housing having a surface adjacent to the cathode, the surface defining an opening having an aspect ratio between about 3:2 and about 400:1 greater than 1,  
wherein the opening is not a louver.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Original) The battery of claim 14, wherein the aspect ratio is between about 5:1 and about 50:1.

17-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A battery, comprising:

a housing;

an anode in the housing;

a cathode in the housing; and

a separator between the cathode and the anode;

the housing having a surface adjacent to the cathode, the surface defining an elongated curved opening,

wherein the opening is not a louver or an ellipse.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the opening has a width between about 0.005mm and about 0.50mm.

22. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the opening has a width between about 0.02mm and about 0.16mm.

23. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the opening has a width between about 0.04mm and about 0.08mm.

24. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the opening has a length between about 0.05mm and about 20.00mm.

25. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the opening has a length between about 0.20mm and about 4.00mm.

26. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the opening has a length between about 0.60mm and about 1.20mm.

27-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the surface defines openings symmetrically positioned in the housing.

30. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the battery is a button cell, and the housing comprises a cathode can having the surface.

31. (Original) The battery of claim 30, wherein the opening extends radially from the center of the cathode can.

32. (Original) The battery of claim 30, wherein the cathode can defines openings symmetrically positioned in the cathode can.

33. (Original) The battery of claim 30, wherein the surface defines between 4 and 12 openings symmetrically positioned and extending radially from the center of the housing.

34. (Original) The battery of claim 30, wherein the surface defines between 8 and 12 openings symmetrically positioned and extending radially from the center of the housing.

35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently amended) The battery of claim 30 35, wherein the cathode defines between 4 and 12 rows symmetrically positioned and extending radially from the center of the housing.

37. (Currently amended) The battery of claim 36, wherein each row comprises between two and four curved elongated openings.

38. (Currently amended) The battery of claim 30 35, wherein the cathode defines between 5 and 8 rows symmetrically positioned and extending radially from the center of the housing.

39. (Currently amended) The battery of claim 38, wherein each row comprises between two and four curved elongated openings.

40. (Currently amended) The battery of claim 19, wherein the surface defines rows, each row comprising multiple curved elongated openings.

41-50. (Withdrawn)

51. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the flux is elongated.
52. (Original) The battery of claim 1, wherein the battery is a cylindrical battery.
53. (Original) The battery of claim 14, wherein the battery is a cylindrical battery.
54. (Original) The battery of claim 19, wherein the battery is a cylindrical battery.

*Ay*  
55-61. (Withdrawn)

62. (Cancelled)

63-67. (Withdrawn)

68. (New) The battery of claim 8, wherein the openings are rectangular.
69. (New) The battery of claim 1, wherein the flux of gas is generally non-circular.

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Serial No. : 09/773,962  
Filed : February 1, 2001  
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Attorney's Docket No.: 08935-238001 / M-4952

In the drawings:

Applicants amended Figure 11 to change reference numeral 11 to reference numeral 110.  
A copy of amended Figure 11 is provided with this Reply.